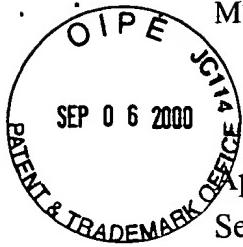


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PATENT



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: S. Okamoto et al.  
Serial No.: 09/581,004  
Filed: July 17, 2000  
FOR: DRIVING-OPERATION  
ASSIST AND RECORDING  
MEDIUM

: Art Unit:

: Examiner:

:

3661

TC 3500 MAIL ROOM  
RECEIVED  
MAY 14 2001

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

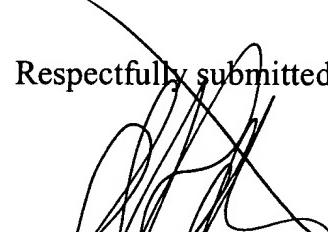
In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

Most of the enclosed references are not in the English language, however the references were cited by a foreign patent office in a related foreign application. The International Search Report was issued in the case of PCT/JP99/04061, which lists the same inventor as the above application. PCT/JP99/04061 is still in the international phase, and the United States is a designated country, and will be prosecuted in the United States as a National Phase

Application in the future. An English translated Japanese language search report, indicating the degree of relevance determined by the foreign patent office is submitted herewith.

No first Official Action has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. No fee is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b).

Respectfully submitted,

  
Allan Rainer, Reg. No. 19,717  
Attorney for Applicants

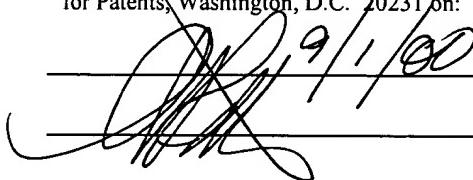
Enclosures: PTO Form 1449,  
Copy of (7) References; and  
English Translation of Japanese Search Report

Dated: September 1, 2000

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The Assistant Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on:

  
9/1/00